

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 148667  
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY TEXT RECEIVED FROM WHITE HOUSE  
APPROVED BY NEA:PLANDE  
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE  
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE  
WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE 0323

S E C R E T STATE 148667

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PPDC, PEPR, PK, US

SUBJECT: MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

1. EMBASSY PLEASE PASS FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT  
CARTER TO GENERAL ZIA. ORIGINAL OF LETTER BEING POUCHED.

DEAR GENERAL ZIA: YOUR LETTER OF MAY 9 WAS VERY HELPFUL  
IN SHARPENING MY UNDERSTANDING OF PAKISTAN'S POSITION IN  
SOUTH ASIA. I HAVE ALSO PROFITED FROM THE VALUABLE IN-  
SIGHTS THAT AMBASSADOR HUMMEL HAS GAINED FROM HIS TALKS  
WITH YOU, AND THAT SECRETARY VANCE HAS ADDED FROM HIS  
MEETING WITH MR. AGHA SHAHI.

BOTH YOU AND I VIEW EVENTS IN AFGHANISTAN WITH A SIMILAR  
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CONCERN FOR THE EFFECT THAT THEY MAY HAVE ON THE REGION'S  
SECURITY. I SHARE YOUR CONCERN WITH THE POLITICAL ANTECE-  
DENTS OF THE NEW AFGHAN LEADERS, AND AM EQUALLY DISTURBED  
BY THEIR PAST STATEMENTS CONCERNING THE DURAND LINE. WE  
AGREE FULLY THAT SOVIET DOMINATION OF AFGHANISTAN WOULD BE  
A DEVELOPMENT OF GREAT SERIOUSNESS FOR SOUTH ASIA AND THE  
ENTIRE FREE WORLD. THOSE OF US WHO SHARE THIS VIEW MUST

COOPERATE CLOSELY OVER THE COMING WEEKS AND MONTHS.

WE ARE UNDER NO ILLUSIONS ABOUT THE DIFFICULTIES THAT MAY

ARISE. WE MUST BE CAREFUL TO AVOID ACTIONS WHICH COULD SEEMINGLY PROVIDE JUSTIFICATION FOR THOSE WHO SEEK TO WORSEN THE SITUATION AND LIMIT THE GOVERNMENT'S CHANCES OF MAINTAINING INDEPENDENCE. WHEN FACED BY CHANGES THAT MAY INDEED BE OF A HISTORIC SCOPE, IT IS IMPORTANT THAT WE ALL ACT WITH FORETHOUGHT AND DETERMINATION.

THE NEW AFGHAN GOVERNMENT HAS DECLARED ITS INTENTION TO REMAIN NON-ALIGNED. YOUR DECISION TO MAINTAIN CONTACT IN ORDER TO TEST ITS WILLINGNESS TO CONTINUE CONSTRUCTIVE FOREIGN POLICIES IS A WISE ONE. I, TOO, INTEND TO PURSUE THIS COURSE AS A FIRST STEP, AND HOPE WE CAN WORK TOGETHER IN TRYING TO HOLD THE KABUL LEADERSHIP TO ITS PROMISE. GIVEN THESE SIMILARITIES IN OUR APPROACH, I WILL VALUE CONTINUED CLOSE CONTACT SO THAT WE CAN MOST CAREFULLY ASSESS WHAT THE NEXT STEPS SHOULD BE.

THERE ARE A NUMBER OF OTHER MATTERS ON WHICH I FEEL WE CAN BOTH PROFIT FROM A FURTHER EXCHANGE OF VIEWS. I KNOW THAT YOU TOO HAVE BEEN TROUBLED BY ISSUES WHICH HAVE ARISEN BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES. SECRETARY VANCE HAS EXPLAINED TO MR. AGHA SHAHI THE REAL LEGAL AND POLI-  
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TICAL HURDLES PLACED IN OUR WAY BY PAKISTAN'S PLANS TO ACQUIRE A REPROCESSING PLANT. WHILE RECOGNIZING THESE DIFFICULTIES, I URGE THAT WE BOTH KEEP CLEAR IN OUR MINDS THE LONG-RANGE INTERESTS AND CONCERNS WHICH UNDERLIE OUR RELATIONSHIP.

FOR MY PART, I SHARE THE CONVICTION BOTH OF MY PREDECESSORS AND YOURS THAT OUR RELATIONSHIP IS IMPORTANT TO EACH OF OUR NATIONS. WITH THIS LASTING PERSPECTIVE IN MIND, WE WILL BE BETTER ABLE TO SOLVE THE IMMEDIATE PROBLEMS THAT STAND BETWEEN US, AND BUILD UPON THE FUNDAMENTAL CONSENSUS THAT BINDS US. I AM DETERMINED TO DO EVERYTHING WITHIN MY POWER TO CONTINUE DEVELOPING OUR HISTORIC RELATIONSHIP OF COOPERATION AND FRIENDSHIP.

I BELIEVE, AS YOU DO, THAT A PERSONAL MEETING WOULD BE HELPFUL. IT WOULD BE ESPECIALLY FRUITFUL AFTER WE ASSESS THE EXCHANGE OF IDEAS BETWEEN SECRETARY VANCE AND MR. AGHA SHAHI, AND AFTER WE HAVE SOME CLEARER KNOWLEDGE OF THE ATTITUDE OF THE NEW GOVERNMENT IN AFGHANISTAN.

IN THE MEANTIME, I SUGGEST THAT WE KEEP IN TOUCH THROUGH

AMBASSADOR HUMMEL AND, AS NEEDED, THROUGH DIRECT CORRESPONDENCE. ONCE AGAIN, I THANK YOU FOR SHARING YOUR THOUGHTS WITH ME; I HOPE YOU WILL CONTINUE TO DO SO ON THIS AND OTHER MATTERS. SINCERELY, JIMMY CARTER. VANCE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**TAGS:** PPDC, PEPR, PK, US  
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